



## SAVING AMERICA'S POLLINATORS ACT

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### THE PROBLEM

Pollinators—including honeybees, bumblebees, butterflies, and other insects—play an important role in our food supply. In fact, one-third of food produced in North America—including nearly 100 varieties of fruits and vegetables such as almonds, avocados, cranberries, and apples—depends on pollination by bees. On a global scale, the contribution of bees and other insects to global food production is valued at \$125 billion a year.

Sadly, America's pollinator populations are struggling. While many factors are believed to contribute to these losses, significant evidence links the use of a certain class of nicotine-derived pesticides, neonicotinoids, with pollinator die-offs.

In response to this crisis, the European Union has permanently banned the outdoor usage of several neonicotinoids. In the United States, communities across the country including Portland and Eugene, OR, Spokane, WA, Skagway, AK, and the states of Maryland and Maine have restricted their use of these pesticides. Unfortunately, the federal government has not addressed this issue with the urgent, decisive action it deserves.

### THE SOLUTION

The Saving America's Pollinators Act uses the latest scientific research and perspectives to ensure that our pollinators are protected. The bill suspends the use of neonicotinoids and other pesticides harmful to bees and other pollinators until experts determine that they are safe to use, based on science.

Specifically, the Saving America's Pollinators Act:

- **Cracks down on insecticides that are toxic to pollinators** by canceling the registration of neonicotinoid pesticides or pesticides containing imidacloprid, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran, acetamiprid, sulfoxaflor, flupyradifurone, or fipronil, as well as treated seeds which were previously exempt, and directs the EPA to coordinate with the Center for Pollinator Conservation and other expert wildlife agencies on any additional approvals; and
- **Increases Coordination with the Center for Pollinator Conservation** to coordinate policies and activities that ensure the conservation of pollinators and reverses pollinator declines, including by taking into account the regulatory actions of government agencies.

Our pollinators, and our food system, are in crisis. The Saving America's Pollinators Act provides pollinators with much-needed relief from bee-toxic pesticides and, in turn, supports farmers and the environment, preserving our economy, food system, and way of life.

### ENDORSERS

Natural Resources Defense Council, Friends of the Earth, Beyond Pesticides, Center for Biological Diversity, Earthjustice, Food & Water Watch, American Bird Conservancy, Friends of Family Farmers, Center for Food Safety, National Organic Coalition, Experimental Farm Network, World Animal Protection, Portland Garden Club, Toxic Free NC, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association